



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

Whereas, August 26, 2006 marks the 86th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing women the right to vote; and

Whereas, the beginning of the debate over a woman's right to vote began at the world's first Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848; and

Whereas, the campaign continued for 72 years, highlighted by the extraordinary efforts of New Jerseyan Alice Paul; and

Whereas, support for the movement grew and on August 26, 1920, the final state ratification of the amendment was passed and the enfranchisement of women became law; and

Whereas, this date also marks the re-enfranchisement of women in New Jersey after an absence of 113 years; and

Whereas, the 86th anniversary of the greatest expansion of citizenship rights in the United States presents a remarkable opportunity to honor the unrelenting tenacity and spirit of the multitude of women and men who worked to secure women's right to vote, and to illustrate how much can be achieved in a democratic society by the collective efforts of citizens committed to political reform; and

Whereas, it was the hope of our Foremothers who fought and died for Women's Suffrage that future generations of women would use that hard-won vote to make this a better world and to fight for full equality and justice for women; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JON S. CORZINE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim

AUGUST 26, 2006

AS

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

in New Jersey, and urge all to join in celebration by governing agencies at the local, state, and national level, as well as by educational institutions, workplaces, civic organizations, places of worship, and communities throughout the nation, with programs, events, proclamations, performances, parades, conferences, and other special ceremonies worthy of this uniquely important and historic occasion.

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal
of the State of New Jersey, this
twenty sixth day of August in the year of
Our Lord two thousand six and of the
Independence of the United States, the
two hundred and thirtieth.

GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR:

NINA MITCHELL WELLS
SECRETARY OF STATE